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A Desideratum: "The Christian History," For 1744

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C's, one reversed, and the date, 1894, in Roman numerals. At the bottom are two monograms: the one in the left-hand corner that of Charles Ricketts; the other in the right-hand corner appears to be made up of an H and an L probably drawn from the title of the book.

In *A Bibliography of the Books Issued by Hacon and Ricketts, 1896-1903*, Ricketts gives evidence of the use, in the Vale Press items, of designs conceived and executed in the pre-Vale period. Examination of this copy of his *Hero and Leander* makes his use of those early designs more specific. When and if the Colby Library acquires *Daphnis and Chloë*, translated by George Thornley (the other title listed in the desiderata note cited above), the picture will be more complete.



A DESIDERATUM: "THE CHRISTIAN HISTORY," FOR 1744

WILL some kind friend assist the Library in completing its set of *The Christian History, containing Accounts of the Revival and Propagation of Religion in Great-Britain & America. For the Year 1743* [-1744]. Boston, N. E. Printed by S. Kneeland and T. Green, for T. Prince, junr. 1744 [-45]? Colby lacks the volume "For the Year 1744," containing the issues, No. 53-104, from Saturday, March 3, 1744, through Saturday, February 23, 1744.5.

According to Sabin, this weekly is one of the earliest American periodicals, and the *Union List of Serials* states that it is the first religious one. It was started at the instigation of the Rev. Thomas Prince, Pastor of the Old South Church, Boston, who was a frequent contributor, and was edited by his son, Thomas Prince, Jr. Our copy of the first volume, "For the Year 1743," bound in contemporary calf, and with the bookplate of Mary Bradford, of Boston, carries, on the verso of the blank leaf at the end, a contempo-

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rary manuscript notation giving names of men killed and wounded in the Boston Massacre on the fifth of March, 1770.



RECENT ACQUISITIONS

AT Commencement time in 1950, the Library opened a Mid-Century Centennial Exhibition of books published in 1850. In the catalogue of this exhibition, the statement was printed that the copy of Mrs. Gaskell's novel, *The Moorland Cottage*, was loaned by Yale University Library for the Colby Exhibition, since our own library had no copy of this mid-century work. Through the kindness of Mrs. Allan P. Stevens of Portland, Maine, this gap has now been closed, and a gilt-edged copy of the first edition of *The Moorland Cottage* is now ours.

Readers of this quarterly will remember that in February 1951 we celebrated the bicentenary of Gray's *Elegy* by publishing an illustrated issue in which we reproduced nine of the "exquisite engravings" that had originally been prepared by John Constable and other artists for an edition of the *Elegy* published in London in 1834 by John van Voorst—an edition that was re-issued in 1836, in 1839, and in 1854. No copy of this edition was present in our bicentennial exhibition, for Colby then had none. We are happy to be able to announce that a copy of the 1836 issue of the Van Voorst edition is now in the college library—the gift of Miss Margaret Perry of Hancock, N. H. The book bears the autograph of her distinguished father, Thomas Sergeant Perry.

From Mr. H. B. Colamore, a member of the Board of Trustees, the Library has received a copy of the extremely rare first American edition of FitzGerald's *Rubaiyat*. It was printed in Columbus, Ohio, in 1870. To call it "extremely rare" is to state the fact with extreme restraint, for the Union Catalog in the Library of Congress records no oth-